

Vol. 64, No. 45 Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. Home of Air Dominance Training Nov. 11, 2005

#### In brief

#### **Mandatory briefing**

All officers commissioned from 2002 to 2003 must attend a mandatory Force Shaping briefing at 9 a.m. Nov. 18 at the Enlisted Club. This includes officers not on the "list" or in the AFSC identified in the official announcement. Officers commissioned in 2004 are also invited as this may affect them next year.

Also, all group and squadron commanders must attend a mandatory Force Shaping briefing at 8 a.m. Nov. 18 in the Wing Conference Room.

#### Traffic change

Bollards will be placed Nov. 28 at the intersection of Tyndall Drive and Alabama Avenue (just inside the flightline-side gate near the 1st Fighter Squadron). Drivers will no longer be able to turn left onto Alabama Avenue from Tyndall Drive, or turn left onto Tyndall Drive from Alabama Avenue. This is to reduce traffic congestion and potential accidents. For more information, call customer service at 283-4948.

#### E-mail upgrade

Beginning at 5 p.m. Nov. 18, and continuing through Nov. 20, Tyndall's e-mail system will be undergoing a planned upgrade of the global address list directed by the Air Education and Training Command headquarters. For more information, see the full article on Page 5.



#### 'HORSEin' around

Staff Sgt. Craig Debini, left, 823rd RED HORSE Squadron, shakes hands with **Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force** Gerald Murray while Tech. Sgt. Jason Filasky looks on. Chief Murray was at Tyndall as part of a command chief's conference. He visited different squadrons around base, including the Silver Flag training site.

# Wynne sworn in as 21st secretary

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. (AFPN) — Michael W. Wynne was sworn in Nov. 3 in front of 4,200 U.S. Air Force Academy cadets, during their noontime meal, as the 21st secretary of the Air Force.

In this role, he is responsible for the affairs of the Department of the Air Force, including organizing, training, equipping and providing for the welfare of its nearly 370,000 men and women on active duty, 180,000 members of the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve, 160,000 civilians and their families.

As head of the Department of the Air Force, Secretary Wynne is responsible for its functioning and efficiency, the formulation of its policies and programs, and the timely implementation of decisions and instructions of the president of the United States and the secretary of defense.

Mr. Wynne replaces Pete Geren, who has served as the acting secretary of the Air Force since July 29.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to serve

alongside America's Airmen and their joint service partners to keep our nation safe," Secretary Wynne said. "With their dedication, skill and sacrifice, they offer an incredible array of options to the president and the nation — from taking the fight to the enemy, providing strategic intelligence to the joint force, or providing humanitarian assistance at home and internationally in the wake of natural disasters."

Prior to appointment, Secretary Wynne served in the Department of Defense as the principal deputy under secretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics.

Mr. Wynne served in the Air Force captain and assistant professor of astronautics at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Mr. Wynne graduated from the United States from the University of Colorado.



U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. (AFPN) -- Secretary of the Air Force, Michael W. Wynne, takes the oath of office from Pete Geren during his swearing-in ceremony today at Mitchell Hall here. Mr. Geren has been the acting SECAF since July 29.

for seven years, ending his service as a Military Academy and also holds a masters' in electrical engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology and a masters' in business

Page 2 **Gulf Defender** Nov. 11, 2005



#### **Promoted!**

Senior Master Sgt. Timothy Carpenter, center, 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, gets "tacked on" by Chief Master Sgts. Trevor Honosky, 95th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, and Doug Martin, 2nd Aircraft Maintenance Unit, Wednesday. Tyndall's current chiefs bused around the base to congratulate the newest chief selectees. For the full promotion list, see Page 8.

# Identify this...



Can you identify this object? If so, send an e-mail to editor@tyndall.af.mil with "Identify This" in the subject line. Three correct entries will be chosen at random and drawn from a hat to select the final winner. The prize can be claimed at the Public Affairs office.

The winner for the Nov. 4 Identify This was Staff Sgt. Tamika Clark, 2nd Fighter Squadron. She correctly guessed that it was a plastic water bottle. Congratulations, Sergeant Clark. Come and claim your prize!

## ON THE **STREET**

## **Team Tyndall salutes our veterans:** What influenced you most during your time in the military?



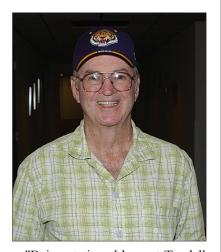
"The biggest influence of the military was learning leadership. It helped me later in life to get better jobs and more improved positions."

WILLIAM L. TILLMAN Retired captain



"In my tour as a recruiter, I got a lot of enlistees just by the tone of my voice. That taught me the way you speak on the phone means a lot."

JOHNNIE ROWE JR. Retired Army master sergeant



"Being stationed here at Tyndall from 1951-1955 was the biggest influence on me. I fell in love with the weather, the beaches and a few girls."

#### CURTIS RANEY Retired chief master sergeant





"The biggest affect the military had on me was the travel and the ability to go places I never would have otherwise – like Germany and Iran."

JIM THOMAS Retired technical sergeant

#### **Gulf Defender Editorial Staff**

Brig Gen Jack Egginton	325th FW commander
0	chief, 325th FW public affairs
,	chief, internal information
	deputy chief, internal information
	editor
Statt Sqt. Benjamin Rojek	editor

The Gulf Defender is published by the Panama City News Herald, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the Gulf Defender are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S.

government, Department of Defense or Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DOD, the Department of the Air Force or the *Panama City News Herald* of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 325th Fighter Wing public affairs office. Photographs are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise

The deadline for article submissions to the Gulf Defender is 4 p.m. Friday, prior to the week of publication unless otherwise noted. Articles must be typed and double-spaced, preferably on a 3.5-inch disc. Stories should be submitted directly to the public affairs office, Building 662, Room 129 or mailed to: 325 FW/PAI, 445 Suwannee Ave., Tyndall AFB, FL, 32403-5425 or e-mailed to editor@tyndall.af.mil. Public affairs staff members edit all material for accuracy, brevity, clarity, conformity to regulations and journalistic style. The delivery of the Gulf Defender to Tyndall base housing sections is provided by the Panama City News Herald

For more information, or to advertise in the newspaper, call (850) 747-5000.

# Commentary

# AFRL: Helping AF from fire fighting to robots

Col. Jim Pollard

Air Force Research Laboratory commander

You may have occasionally heard loud booms and felt unexplained vibrations or seen smoke rising from behind the trees to the east along Highway 98.

Chances are it was a 1,000-pound explosive device detonating or a mock aircraft fire being extinguished. These events are part of the ongoing research of a longtime Tyndall resident, Detachment 2 of the Air Force Research Laboratory.

You may also be wondering, what exactly is AFRL? It is an organization of more than 9,500 engineers, scientists and support personnel who "lead the discovery, development and integration of affordable war fighting technologies for our air and space force." As we in the lab like to say, "We turn science fiction into science fact."

The world's best aircraft, the F/A-22 Raptor that you see in action here at Tyndall, is a great example. It was made possible by AFRL-led science and technology starting decades ago. This includes its stealth technology, the high-temperature materials used in the engine and composite materials that make up much of the

Our history at Tyndall dates back to 1975 when we were part of what was known as the Air Force Civil Engineering Center. That organization gradually evolved to become today's Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency, another current Tyndall tenant. We remained a part of AFCESA until 1992, at which time we became part of Air Force Material Com-

AFRL Det. 2 is a division of the Materials and Manufacturing Directorate located at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. Here we focus on three research areas – airbase sciences, deployed base systems and force protection technology.

The airbase sciences branch conducts research in atmospheric-threat protection, biotechnology and applied chemistry. These are our "white coat" scientists who primarily work in our main laboratory on the support side of the base. They focus on understanding the chemistry and biology that control performance and behavior of certain materials and processes. That understanding can then be used to develop new materials and processes.

The deployed base systems branch focuses on energy, fire and airfield operating surfaces. Their main objective is to make air expeditionary forces lighter, leaner and more effective. They develop technologies ranging from the use of inno-

**"F**reedom has never

Air Force Materiel Command commander

come free of cost."

GEN. BRUCE CARLSON

vative solar energy to ultra-high pressure firefighting techniques to airfield damage renair.

Our force protection branch consists of security technologies, robotics and engineering mechanics groups. These engineers and scientists explore the design of buildings to make them safe for the people inside if a terrorist bomb explodes near by.

The robotics research group focuses on having machines do the dull, dirty and dangerous work so Airmen don't have to. They've also developed robots to patrol and protect base perimeters.

We are very proud and fortunate to be a member of Team Tyndall, and I'd like to say thank you to all the men and women of the 325th Fighter Wing for all your support and for never making AFRL Det. 2 feel like we're "just a tenant!"

# Remember those who served this Veterans Day

GEN. BRUCE CARLSON

Air Force Materiel Command commander

#### WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE,

**Ohio** — Today we call it Veterans Day. In years past it was called Armistice Day. But regardless of how we label it, it remains a day on which we pause to pay tribute to the Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Coast Guardsmen who have served our country. By taking time to remember, we honor those who have made, and continue to make, sacrifices for our country.

Freedom has never come free of cost. For those who have put their lives on the line for our country, freedom has a special meaning that most people never know.

Ask a veteran who stormed Omaha Beach in World War II, who almost froze on Korea's Chosin Reservoir, who slogged through the steaming Mekong Delta in Vietnam or who is still fighting Al-Qaeda in Afghanistan and Iraq. These people know the meaning of freedom.

Since World War II, some 26 million Americans have patrolled the skies, guarded our shores and served on the flightlines, front lines and supply lines. Right now,

Airmen, including many from AFMC, are on alert around the clock on the Korean Peninsula, or taking the fight to the enemy in the 100plus degree temperatures of the Middle East.

The U.S. Air Force flies an average of 150 sorties a day over Iraq

sible by the AFMC military and civilian Airmen who deliver our warfighting capabilities on time and on cost.

But our Airmen's contributions are not limited to the member and say thank you.

battlefield. They are continually participating in many humanitarian efforts. The Air Force delivered more than 17,000 tons of supplies for victims of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Our Airmen have flown nearly 50,000 evacuees to safety and aeromedical evacuation teams

> airlifted thousands to treatment facilities. Our pararescuemen rescued more than 6,500 in the aftermath of those devastating storms.

> As this year marks the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II, fewer of the "greatest generation" remain. But because of those vet-

and 75 a day over Afghanistan — sorties made pos- erans' past, we are free. And because of veterans present and future, we'll remain free.

Please join me this Veterans Day as we pause, re-

# **Action Line** Call 283-2255 Brig. Gen. Jack Egginton 325th Fighter Wing commander

The Action Line is your direct line to me. It you are unable to resolve the problem, call me is one way to make Tyndall a better place to work and live.

The goal is to provide you with an accurate, timely response. You must leave your name, phone number or address to receive a re-

Questions or comments of general interest will be published in this forum. This avenue should only be used after coordinating problems or concerns with supervisors, commanders, first sergeants or facility managers.

If you're not satisfied with the response or

at 283-2255.

For fraud, waste and abuse calls, you should talk to the 325th Fighter Wing Inspector General's Office, 283-4646.

Calls concerning energy abuse should be referred to the energy hot line, 283-3995.

Below are more phone numbers that help you in resolving any issues with a base agency.

283-4825
283-4191
283-7515
283-2739

<b>NPF</b>	283-2276
SFS Desk Sgt.	283-2254
Services	283-2501
-egal	283-4681
lousing	283-2036
CDC	283-4747
Ving Safety	283-4231
Area Defense Counsel	283-2911
inance	283-4117
Civil Engineer	283-4949
Civilian Personnel	283-3203
Base Information	283-1113

Thank you for helping me improve Tyndall and I look forward to hearing from you.

# Holiday mail deadlines approaching

SAMANTHA L. QUIGLEY

**WASHINGTON (AFPN)** — "Pack it well" and "mail it early" are two tips a military postal official offered today for holiday mail being sent to servicemembers overseas.

The Defense Department announced recommended holiday mail dates Oct. 31. The first deadline occurs Saturday for parcel post items headed overseas to APO and FPO ZIP codes. Deadlines for other mail classes continue with Nov. 26 for space-available mail; Dec. 3, parcel-airlift mail; Dec. 10, priority mail and Dec. 19, express mail.

Mark J. DeDomenic, Military Postal Service Agency assistant deputy director, recommends using nylon tape or reinforced packing tape on packages because other tapes tend to come off..

Any buzzing, ticking or vibrating items will be "red flagged," Mr. DeDomenic said. So to keep a package from getting bomb-squad attention, he advises removing batteries from electronics.

Fill out customs labels completely and use a proper military address to help move the package through the system. If there's concern the content list on the customs label will give away a surprise, Mr. DeDomenic said to place the form inside the package. Customers should then attach a label outside of the package noting the form is inside.

Customers should also be conscious of the box's markings. Regardless of the contents, boxes with hazardous substance or alcohol markings won't make it through the system, he said.

Boxes used to ship gifts should be strong and well-packed because of the long distances traveled and the high volume of parcels moving with them, Mr. DeDomenic said.

He said in the 2004 holiday season, his agency moved more than 28 million pounds of mail between Dec. 1 and 25.

By comparison, roughly five million pounds of mail move

through the agency in a month. The agency defines the holiday mailing season as Tuesday through Jan. 10.

Mr. DeDomenic said those who may not personally know a servicemember overseas, but want to share the holiday spirit, should visit the America Supports You.mil Web site.

"That provides information on how you can support the troops even if you don't have (a servicemember) that is a family member or close relative," he said.

Another option is the Army & Air Force Exchange Service's phone card campaign, dubbed "Help Our Troops Call Home." It is an affordable way to connect service members on the front lines with family back home. Military Exchange Global Prepaid Phone cards ranging from \$14.99 to \$39 can be sent to an individual servicemember (designated by the purchaser) or distributed to Any Servicemember through the American Red Cross, Air Force Aid Society, Fisher House or USO.

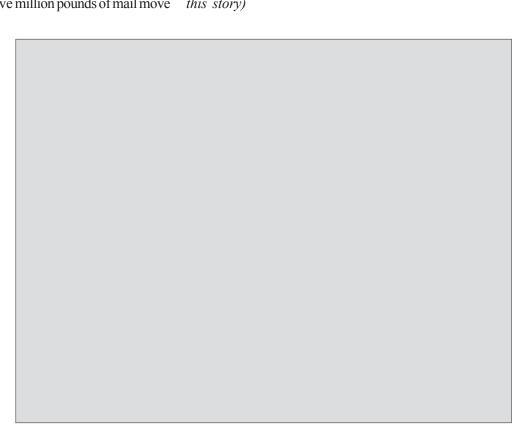
Lightweight and flexible, AAFES' "Gifts from the Homefront" are another affordable troop support option that lets the receiver choose what "care package" items they prefer. Started in March 2003, this gift certificate effort makes it easy for troops to pick up items normally included in a "traditional" care package at more than 55 exchange facilities in Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. The gift certificates can also be distributed to Any Service Member.

People can purchase either the gift certificates or phone cards by logging on to www.aafes.org. There are also two toll-free phone numbers to call: (877) 770-4438 for "Gifts from the Homefront" gift certificates and (800) 527-2345 for "Help Our Troops Call Home" phone cards.

Express mail tracking is available through the U.S. Postal Service Web site, as long as the mail is not going to a combat zone, Mr. DeDomenic said.

(Army & Air Force Exchange Service contributed to this story)





#### Global address list upgrade

Beginning at 5 p.m. Nov. 18, and continuing through Nov. 20, Tyndall's e-mail system will be undergoing a planned upgrade of the global address list directed by the Air Education and Training Command headquarters. In order to send e-mail during this time users will need to type the full e-mail address (i.e., john.doe@base.af.mil) of any person they are trying to contact since the GAL will be unavailable.

When returning to work Nov. 21, attempts to reply to e-mail received prior to Nov. 18 may be unsuccessful. Instead of using the "Reply" option, users should use the "Forward" option and select the intended recipient from the new GAL. Note that this is only for e-mail received before Nov. 18. All e-mail received on or after Nov. 21 will function normally. Finally, all personal address books or contacts may need to be recreated after the upgrade. As a precaution, users should save their address book information prior to Nov. 18 using the "File" "Export" function in Microsoft Outlook so it can be restored if needed.

The Network Control Center will send additional information to all unit client support administrators to further explain this upgrade. Users should contact their unit CSA if they have any questions or need assistance with these actions.

# Tyndall exceeds 2005 CFC goal

**CHRISSY CUTTITA** 

325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

After six weeks, the 2005 Combined Federal Campaign ended Oct. 23 and Tyndall exceeded its goal by 22 percent.

"Coordination was key to our success and our unit points of contact did an outstanding job," said Senior Master Sgt. Denise Richardson, 325th Maintenance Operations Squadron flight superintendent and Tyndall project officer for CFC. "We raised \$232,193.97 this year, exceeding last year's contribution of \$220,000."

The annual fall fundraising drive gives federal employees and service members an opportunity to contribute to more than 1,500 local, national and international nonprofit organizations.

One small tenant unit here was determined to set an example by having every member contribute and exceed their goal by 629 percent.

"I hoped everyone would give

something even if it was just five dollars, and when we realized we might be the only squadron on base with total participation, our unit was determined to send a message to other flights in our organization," said Tech. Sgt. Brian Crouse, 16th Electronic Warfare Squadron operation location alpha systems lead technician.

#### **FORCE SUSTAINMENT**



"I feel like I played a part of something important," said Airman Sarah Harris, 325th MOS maintenance analyst, who worked on the fundraising committee planning for a base car wash and bowling tournament.

Fundraising events and donations

from organizations like the Officers' Spouses' Club helped the base get closer to its goal.

"It's not too late to donate," said Sergeant Richardson. "Personnel can donate through the United Way downtown and their contributions can be kept private from our records."

To contribute, a person designates which charity or charities receive their money by filling out a pledge card. Then they choose to pay in cash, by check or payroll deduction. The phone number for the local United Way is (850) 785-7521.

In 2004, through the generosity of people around the world, CFC raised almost \$257 million for charities.

In December, the base will recognize CFC key workers at a breakfast to thank them for their successful efforts. Contributors who gave 1.5 percent of their pay are also invited.

For more information, go to the CFC Web site at www.opm.gov/cfc/.

Page 6 Gulf Defender Nov. 11, 2005

## Raptor pilot receives AETC safety award

2ND LT. WILLIAM POWELL

325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A Tyndall F/A-22 Raptor pilot recently received an Air Education and Training Command Flight Safety Well-Done award for safely recovering his aircraft from what could have been a potentially disastrous aircraft incident.

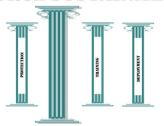
Capt. Clayton Bartels, 43rd Fighter Squadron upgrade instructor pilot, experienced simultaneous failures of key avionics and navigation equipment in his Raptor about 120 miles away from Tyndall during his first night sortie.

The malfunctions left his aircraft without the ability to transmit his position or his problem to three other Raptors flying miles away. He was left with receive-only transmission capability, and without the ability to navigate or communicate, he was, in essence, nearly lost.

"But I did have (night vision goggles)," he said. "I could see MacDill AFB and the northern coastline, so I did have some orientation of where I was."

As soon as Captain Bartels stopped responding to radio transmissions, the other flight members went looking for him, he said. Unfortunately, the malfunctions also turned off most of the exterior lights on the jet, which made it very difficult for the other pilots to

#### **FORCE SUSTAINMENT**





nd Lt. William Powell

Capt. Clayton Bartels, 43rd Fighter Squadron instructor pilot, gets ready for a sortie Tuesday here. The captain recently earned an Air Education and Training Command award for safely landing an F/A-22 Raptor that lost nearly all navigational and radio transmission capabilities during his first night sortie here.

spot him in the night sky.

After about 10 minutes, he was found by Capt. Shawn Anger, 43rd FS, who safely guided Captain Bartels back to Tyndall.

Pilots receive training in flight simulators to learn how to respond to similar problems, but this real-life incident didn't happen the same way the simulator said it would, said Captain Bartels.

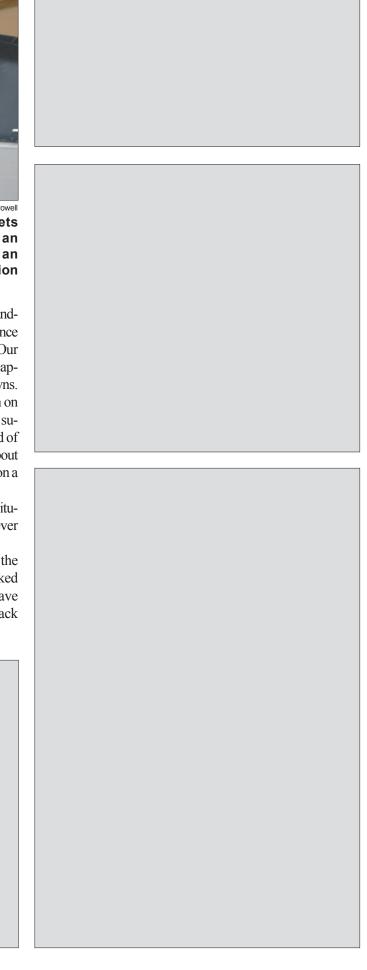
"I should have been able to get back some of my navigation, and the backup radio not working was a big surprise," he said.

However with most new airframes, like the Raptor, it's common to experience problems that weren't previously planned for, said Lt. Col. Michael Stapleton, 43rd FS commander.

"The pilots in our squadron were handpicked based on their abilities, experience
and judgment," the colonel said. "Our
duty is to get the most out of this weapons system and to handle the unknowns.
(Captain Bartels) faced an unknown on
his first night sortie and handled it superbly. That says a lot about the kind of
training he got here, and it says a lot about
how dangerous our job can be even on a
simple night training sortie."

Despite this potentially dangerous situation, Captain Bartels said he was never really alarmed.

"The jet was still flying and all the flight controls and engines still worked fine," he said. "I know I would have eventually been able to make it back home safely."



Buy and sell through the Checkertail Market! Turn to Page 16 to sell, Page 17 to buy. It's FREE!



# Canadian Remembrance Day honors veterans of America's neighbor, ally

CHRISSY CUTTITA

325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

During America's Veterans Day today, Tyndall Airmen have the opportunity to participate in a Canadian Remembrance Day ceremony to honor the veterans of the allied force who fight along side the U.S. in war and peace.

Canadian Forces here will host their event at the Officers' Club starting at 10:45 a.m.

"Canada's Remembrance Day is essentially a combination of the American Memorial Day and Veterans Day," said Canadian Forces Warrant Officer Richard Nadeau, Continental United States North



2nd Lt. Wiliam Powell

Capt. David Brown, 601st Air Communications Squadron, plays the pipes during the Canadian Forces Remembrance Day celebration last year.

American Aerospace Defense Command Region battle management operations superintendent. "The purpose is the same – we remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. The invitation is out for all military and civilian personnel to join us."

The Remembrance Day commemoration here will include observing two minutes of silence, reveille, a chaplain's invocation, wreath laying and words from the Canadian Forces commander.

"The use of wreaths continues a tradition that dates back to antiquity," said Warrant Officer Nadeau. "The word 'wreath' simply refers to a circlet of flowers, boughs, or leaves worn on the head, placed on a memorial, or hung as a decoration."

According to Canada's Veterans Affairs, more than 1,500,000 Canadians have served their country in this way, and more than 100,000 have died. So each year, Canadians pause on Nov. 11 to remember the veterans who served their country in times of war during the 20th century. Those veterans are the men and women who died or risked their lives while serving in the Canadian Army, the Air Force, the Navy, the Merchant Navy, and with peacekeeping forces. In addition, they remember the men, women and children who rallied to support Canada's war efforts in countless ways in homes, businesses, factories, voluntary service organizations and schools across the country.

"The celebration of Remembrance Day is important because we need to be reminded that we must not take peace for granted, as it is far too fragile," said Canadian Forces Maj. Ronald Carnahan, 601st Combat Plans Squadron division chief. "New threats appear all the time and the troops of both our nations are involved in wars or peacekeeping activities worldwide. Some of these hotspots are so far away that the realities of war – fighting, death, homelessness and starvation – are so removed from our everyday lives that we do not appreciate their significance. Remembrance Day should make us all stop and think."

Page 8 **Gulf Defender** Nov. 11, 2005

# Chief selection list now available

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — The Air Force selected 589 senior master sergeants for promotion to chief master sergeant.

The Air Force released the promotion list Wednesday. The complete list of selectees is available at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/eprom/.

A total of 2,580 senior master sergeants were considered for a 22.83 percent selection rate. Last year's selection rate was 21.06 percent.

"The chief master sergeant promotion selection program has always been extremely competitive, without exception," said Chief Master Sgt. Sharrell Callaway, 325th Mission Support Squadron. "By public law, only one percent of the enlisted force can be in the grade of E-9."

The average score for those selected was 659.42, with an average time in grade and time in service of 3.34 and 22.63 years respectively. The average score was based on the following point averages:

- 135 for enlisted performance reports
- 27.06 for time in grade
- 23.39 for time in service
- 24.16 for decorations
- 62.09 for the Air Force supervisory examination
- 387.72 for the evaluation board score

Score notices should be available via the Virtual Military Personnel Flight.

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gerald Murray was able to attend Tyndall's chief promotion party Wednesday at the Enlisted Club.

"Today we're recognizing all our great Airmen being selected for promotion to our highest enlisted level of leadership," said Chief Murray. "I'm excited to be at Tyndall – it's a great celebration being here with these new chiefs."

#### Congratulations to Tyndall's chief master sergeant selects!

(Editor's note: The following senior master sergeants were recently selected for promotion to chief master sergeant.)

#### Carol Cox

325th Communications Squadron

#### Jody Reed

325th Maintenance Group

#### **Timothy Carpenter**

325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

#### **Annette Henderson**

NCO Academy

#### **Gary Hofstetter**

83rd Fighter Weapons Squadron

#### **Brian Pickett**

Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency

#### **Timothy Culbertson**

1st Air Force

Phase I of the Sabre Gate project is currently underway and is expected to be completed by Nov. 18. Phase I will complete the new outbound lane at Sabre Gate, as well as the widening of School Road.

Contractors will continue to work on completing the water line repair.

Phase II should begin approximately five to 10 days later. This time will allow for all inbound lanes to be closed and outbound traffic to begin use of the newly constructed lane. Inbound traffic will use the newly widened School Road. The expected construction start date for Phase II will be approximately Nov. 28.

Phase II can be expected to last until March 2006. This involves the removal of the existing, and construction of a new, gatehouse, installation of antiterrorism force protection measures and resurfacing of the entire Sabre Gate roadway.

Exercise caution while driving through the areas during these construction phases, since large equipment and construction personnel can be heavy at times.





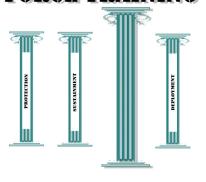
o .......

The Gulf Defender is published for people like Staff Sgt. Alana Fleming, 83rd Fighter Weapons Squadron aviation resource manager.





#### FORCE TRAINING



#### Training Spotlight

## What has been the best part of training so far?

"My favorite part of the training so far has been getting a solo in the F-15 Eagle. It was a dream come true."



2ND LT. ERIC OTTO
2nd Fighter Squadron B-Course student

# Student Focus

# **Teaching intelligence:** Students learn about F-15, how to brief Eagle pilots

2nd Lt. William Powell

325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The ability for a pilot to fly into a combat zone and know what and who is in it is vital to mission success, and intelligence personnel are the ones who give these warriors knowledge to complete mission objectives.

Tyndall is where intelligence personnel receive F-15 Eagle-specific training. The four-week course builds upon general intelligence information taught at Goodfellow AFB, Texas.

Here, students learn how to give Eagle drivers a clear picture of the battlefield. It is their job to take large amounts of data from various sources and condense it into a clear and concise briefing for a pilot to easily decipher which threats he may face during a mission.

"One way we inform a pilot about potential threats is the 'threat of the day' briefing," said Staff Sgt. Ramon Martinez, 325th Operations Support Squadron Intelligence Flight Training Unit NCO in charge and instructor. "The briefings discuss different weapon systems that could theoretically shoot the pilots down, and the students (will eventually) give about six threat briefings a day at their home units."

Although intelligence work is mostly front-loaded, they also have to debrief pilots to learn what happened during a mission, he said.

"We need to know of any threats the pilots faced and if they were shot at," said Sergeant Martinez. "This information helps us build quality reports to send up through the leadership, which is used to decide if a mission was successful or if changes are necessary for future missions."

To effectively prepare students for debriefings and other operational duties, the instructors purposely designed the course to combine enlisted and officers in one class where they learn the same tasks. The goal is to foster teamwork between the ranks to get the job done efficiently and effectively.

"In the intelligence profession, individuals have to work together, whether they are enlisted or of-

ficer, and that's what we teach here," said Sergeant Martinez. "The class is given assignments that are due within a few hours, and we evaluate how well they work together."

The teamwork experience and the advanced systems knowledge help the students comprehend the specific capabilities of the Eagle and its threats, which will benefit the students once they put their newly learned knowledge to the test back at their home installations.

"My goal is to learn the capabilities and the limitations of the F-15 because if I understand those, I can better support the pilots with what they need for their missions," said Capt. Shane



2nd Lt. William Powe

Tech. Sgt. Phil Calla, 325th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron aerospace physiology technician, straps 2nd Lt. Sean Barnes into an oxygen mask Monday at the altitude chamber here. Lieutenant Barnes is an F-15 Eagle intelligence student here.

Gainous, a student from an F-16 Fighting Falcon unit in the South Carolina Air National Guard. "(Intelligence personnel) who are familiar with other Air Force airframes are even more useful in mission planning."

Overall, the continued training of intelligence personnel is necessary to effectively prepare a pilot for any threat he may face to maintain the perfect kill ratio the Eagle boasts.

"The Eagle is not going to go away for a while, despite its age and projected replacement by the F/A-22 Raptor," said Sergeant Martinez. "As long as bases have the F-15s, the intelligence people will be there to support them."



#### **Getting carded**

Air battle manager students with Class 06002 review their class' "trading cards" (inset). The cards, created by 2nd Lt. James Capra, highlight the students class patch, Kickball Controllers. Class 06002 graduated Wednesday at the 325th Air Control Squadron.

# F-15 Eagle B-Course progress chart Class# 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100% Dec. 20 2005/BT Jan. 9 2005/BT March 10 April 5



Catching the "Bunko" is always a highlight during the dice game. Both spouse clubs choose this game because it is fun, easy and gets people mingling.



Kelli Wimmer, right, Thrift Shop volunteer cashier, assists a store customer.

# Keeping up with traditio

# Tyndall area spouses enjoy activities companionship, share military custo

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CHRISSY CUTTITA

325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A tradition began in the early 1800s when Martha Washington and other spouses joined General George Washington and his troops in their winter quarters to provide aid, and comfort and create a sense of home among the troops.

Ever since there has been an American Army, there have been spouses who share and support them in their military service.

Tyndall AFB Officers' Spouses' Club and Enlisted Spouses' Club offer an opportunity for spouses to enjoy, participate in, meet and understand their military family, just as spouses have done throughout military history.

"The ESC helped me when I was all alone, new to the base and knew no one," said Gina Hall, ESC president, who believes in the program she has enjoyed for two years. "You k there is always someone to call v you need support."

"It is an instant friendship when come to a new base," said Lisa F ter who said camaraderie is what enjoys most about the OSC.

"I just joined to meet more pe because this is my first move a from home," said Jean Walton, member, who met other member their abildran's

their children's play group and is excited about being a part of the club.

Both clubs are social and charitable organizations. Spouses create a support network for

NOTION NO

each other and reach out to the community around them. They do this while having fun at game nights, theme parties, raffle tables and fashion shows. Ms. Washington and her companions started out the same way, setting up luncheons, picnics and dances in the Soldiers' battalions.

Monies the OSC raises at events and the thrift shop often go to their welfare fund. This is an account set aside for organizations that may call for OSC support, such as the American Red Cross. Other money goes to scholarship funds for college students.

The ESC also has a pot of money set aside in case an organization or charity requests their donation. In addition, they regularly visit the local Clifford Chester Sims State Veterans Nursing Home, especially during holidays, to interact with and provide company to residents.

They always put a team together for Relay for Life, a walk hosted by the American Cancer Society to raise money for patients. Recently they've also donated items to the Family Support Center's Airman's Attic.

Through the work they do, they meet people around base and begin to develop an understanding of the organization their spouses are members of.

"I've learned so much doing this," said Michelle Ritsema, OSC president. "This the first Air Force assignment for my husband and when I got here I wanted to get involved, jump in with both feet. A member at his squadron suggested I volunteer to put myself in the election for OSC president and I got it. Through my time with the club, I have gained a better understanding of the military and how this base works."

"I rely on my fellow ESC members for their comfort in sharing the stress of being a military spouse who has to

USTAINMENT

now

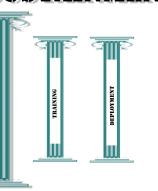
vhen

you

lich-

she

ople



adjust my family's schedule to my husband's mission," said Lydia Osborne, a new spouse to the Air Force. "After all, the military takes care of us. They give us the benefits

we need to be able to stay home and raise our children. I look for the friendship of others who share a similar lifestyle to mine, married to military with kids. And even though I'm young, age doesn't matter. What matters is what we share in common."

"There are so many things I want to do to help out like aid hurricane relief, so I needed to find a working group that would get involved with the community," said Berta O'Sullivan, OSC member and Navy spouse, who travels from Panama City Beach for the camaraderie she found here. "During my husband's last two assignments, I also started a 'lunch bunch' and I want to do that here.

She said a lunch bunch is when she invites everyone out to lunch for an informal and fun lunch hour at local restaurants.

"It really works well to get everyone together," said Ms. O'Sullivan.

There are more than 20 positions a spouse can serve in at the OSC and they are always welcoming new project ideas.

"No matter where you are in life, how much time you have or what rank your spouse is, you can participate,"

said Ms. Ritsema. "The community here has open arms and they really make everyone feel welcome."

While some events are for spouses only, other events welcome youth and family members. For those who can't find a babysitter, child care is available during daytime functions and meetings.

"We want people to know we are out there and have a lot to offer," said Ms. Ritsema.

"I didn't know I would like ESC until I tried it, and now I love it," said Ms. Hall. "We allow people the opportunity to try us out for two meetings before we ask for fees. We welcome anyone who is enlisted or married to enlisted, any rank, retired, reserve or active."

Force. "After all, the military takes care of us. They give us the benefits

Both clubs will continue the military tradition next with a joint game night at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Officers' Club. Call Ms. Ritsema at 286-5613 for OSC information, or call Ms. Hall at 286-4127 for ESC information.



Donna Dickerson, OSC member, cuts out a pajama bottom pattern for the "Sew project much comfort." This project provides home-made pajama bottoms hospitalized war veterans. The pajamas are specially designed to fit over large casts. OSC decided to help out and make the needed items, and they invited the ESC to join them.





Left: Lydia Osborne, left, tries out body products Jean Walton brought and shared with fellow ESC members. Ms. Walton hosted a spa-type class for ESC members during a meeting in September. Above: ESC members meet monthly to discuss future

Nov. 11, 2005 Page 12 **Gulf Defender** 

#### **Briefs**

#### **RAO** volunteers

The Retiree Activities Office is seeking volunteers to assist with the various tasks associated with running the office. The RAO is an all-volunteer organization that provides assistance and information to Tyndall's retiree community on retiree-related issues. Those interested in volunteering should contact the office by e-mail at tyndall.RAO@tyndall.af.mil or call 283-2737.

#### **Veterans Day parade**

The Bay County Veterans Day parade and ceremony is being held at 9:30 a.m. today at Bay High School Tommy Oliver Stadium and will travel on Harrison Avenue before ending at the Marina Civic Center. Maj. Gen. Scott Mayes, 1st Air Force commander, will serve as the parade's grand marshal and guest speaker for the ceremony afterwards. A wreathlaying ceremony begins around 10:30 a.m. in front of the Civic Center, and will include an F-15 Eagle flyover.

#### **Extinguisher maintenance shop**

The extinguisher maintenance shop has moved from the Fire Station, Bldg. 214, to Building 131. Customer service hours are from 8-10 a.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and 1–3 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. For more information, call Mr. Gary Fitzwater, extinguisher maintenance technician, at 283-4394.

#### Tyndall bowling team

Base bowling team tryouts will be held from 9 a.m. to noon Sunday and Dec. 17 at Raptor Lanes. For more information, contact Fred Alcorn at 283-2380.

#### **Family Tradition Night**

In commemoration of Military Family Month, the Family Support Center is holding a Family Tradition Night 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday at the FSC classroom in Bldg. 743. There will be free pizza and a discussion on the importance of family traditions. For more information, call 283-4204.

#### **Smooth Move workshop**

The next Smooth Move Workshop will take place from 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday at the Family Support Center classroom. All military, DOD civilians and family members are invited. Experts from legal, finance, transportation management,

# Gulf Guide



#### School monitor

Master Sgt. Rick Potter, right, Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency, and Amasa Sears, from Panama City Christian School, load computers Nov. 1. Thirty-three computers were transferred from AFCESA to the school. The Air Force typically gives its older computers to area schools. Although the computers are outmoded and out of warranty, schools are often able to refurbish and maintain them for classroom use.

family advocacy, billeting, housing and Tricare, as well as the Family Support Center will be there to answer questions. Call 283-4204/4205 to make reservations.

#### GCCC closure, registration

All Gulf Coast Community College locations will be closed today for Veterans Day. Gulf Coast Community College Spring 2006 schedules should be available Monday. The Tyndall Center's spring registration is 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday. The graduation application deadline is Nov. 18. For more information, call 283-4332.

#### **ERAU** registration

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Spring 2006 Term Registration will be held from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 28-Dec. 9 in Bldg. 1230, Room 49. Class dates are Jan. 7–March 10. For more information, call 283-4557.

#### Troy University Term I

The deadline to remove an incomplete grade from Term I is Nov. 18. All unfinished work must be completed and submitted to the instructor by this date or the incomplete will become an "F."

Also, Web registration for Troy University Term III will begin Nov. 21 and continue through Jan. 1. Open registration will begin Dec. 5 and continue through Jan. 1.

#### **Tricare briefing**

A Tricare benefit briefing will be held from 6–8 p.m. Tuesday at the Gulf Beach Baptist Church located on Hutchison Boulevard in Panama City Beach. Health care information will be provided for all categories of Tricare beneficiaries. For more information, call the 325th Medical Group's Tricare Operations office at 283-7331.

#### **Fitness Center hours**

The Tyndall Fitness Center will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday for the Air Education and Training Command down day. For more information, call 283-2631.

#### **Commissary hours**

The Tyndall Commissary will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today for Veterans Day. For the Thanksgiving holiday, the hours will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 21, regular hours Nov. 22-23, closed Thanksgiving Day and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 25. For more information, call 283-4825.

#### Airman's Attic

Family Services and the Airman's Attic are open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday-Friday in Bldg. 747. Call the Family Services office at 283-4913 for more information.

#### **Thrift Shop hours**

The Thrift Shop will be closed today due to Veterans Day and Nov. 23-25 for Thanksgiving. The last day to accept Christmas items for consignment is Dec. 8.

Normal operating hours are 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, with consignments from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays and Thursdays. The Thrift Shop is located in Bldg. 743 on Suwannee Drive across from the Base Post Office. For more information, call 286-5888.



#### Catholic services

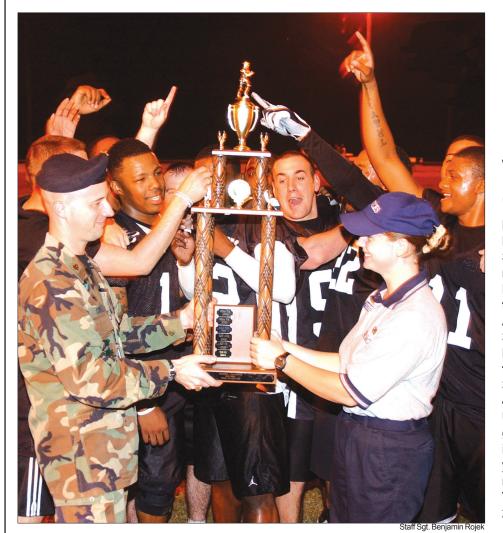
Daily Mass, 11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday, Chapel Two Reconciliation, before Saturday Mass or by appointment Saturday Mass, 5 p.m., Chapel Two Sunday Mass, 9:30 a.m., Chapel Two Religious Education, 11 a.m., Bldg. 1476

#### **Protestant services**

Traditional worship service, 9:30 a.m., Chapel One Contemporary worship service, 11 a.m., Chapel Two Wednesday Fellowship, 5 p.m., Chapel Two

#### Muslim services

Dhuhr Prayer, Monday-Thursday, Spiritual Maintenance building near the flightline Jumauh services, 12:30 p.m. the second and fourth Friday of each month, Spiritual Maintenance building near flightline



# We are the champions

Maj. Christopher Corley, left, 325th Security Forces Squadron commander, receives the Intramural **Football Championship** trophy from Senior Airman Carol Hysell, 325th Services Squadron, Monday at the Tyndall football field. The 325th SFS took down the 43rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit 34-12 in the final game. For more on intramural sports, contact your unit sports representative or the **Tyndall Fitness Center at** 283-2631.

# Manning, RHS bury their opponents in Week 9 action

PIGSKIN PROGNOSTICATOR

From the edge of nirvana

"We got our butts kicked tonight," said Patriots quarterback Tom Brady after his Monday night loss to Indianapolis.

Well, yeah – you played the Colts, Tom. Sure, Peyton Manning's record in Foxborough, Mass., was 0-7, but this is his year. I'm sure he'll be napping half the time at the Week 10 game against Houston.

One unnamed New England fan tried to stand up for his beloved team.

"Well, at least Tom Brady isn't as ugly as Peyton Manning," he said.

That's what kind of year New England is having.

And look at what kind of year Chicago is having. At 5-3, they've already won as many games as they did last year (5-11).

Sunday's game against the Saints wasn't pretty, but this is the first time the Bears have won four straight since

the 2001 season. Not to mention they did it all in Louisiana and without their starting running back Thomas Jones.

On the Tyndall front, 823rd RHS had an unprecedented 13 correct picks. The 325th OSS came close with 12, but mistakenly picked Tampa Bay over Carolina. Close, however, doesn't count when you're in this HORSE's shoes. The squadron is aiming for the top.

"We plan on catching the leaders by doing what we did this week: Picking the right teams," said Dorian Williams, 823rd RHS picker.

Their perfect picks intrigued me, so I wanted to know if they thought they had a chance at taking the Prog down.

"Come next week, we'll be looking at the Pig-Prog through our rearview mirrors," said Williams.

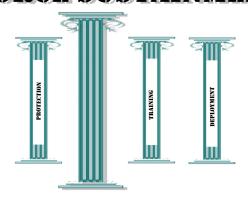
Hey, don't forget those words at the bottom of the mirror: "Objects are closer than they appear."

Now, let's get out there and watch some football!

# Prognosticator scorebox

Team	Week 9	Total
PIG-PROC	3 10	72
325th MOS	10	81
First Sgts.	11	80
325th AMXS	10	80
325th SVS	10	78
325th ACS	10	77
325th CS	11	76
2nd FS	10	76
325th CONS	3 10	76
325th MDOS	S 8	75
53rd WEG	11	74
325th CPTS	9	73
823rd RHS	13	72
325th OSS	12	68
325th CES	11	68
325th MXS	10	68
325th MSS	7	67
325th OG	10	60
325th SFS	11	53
NCOA	0	50
AFRL	10	48

#### **FORCE SUSTAINMENT**



#### **Intramural Sports Standings**

#### Football final standings

American		National			
<u>Team</u>	W	<u>L</u>	<u>Team</u>	W	<u>L</u>
MXS	6	1	ACS	8	0
43rd AMU	5	2	SFS	7	1
83rd FWS	5	2	TEST	6	2
OSS	4	3	CES	5	3
1st AMU	3	4	COMM	4	4
CPTS	2	5	601st EAOG	2	6
<b>AFCESA</b>	2	5	SVS	2	6
53rd WEG	1	6	MDG	1	7
			CONS	1	7

#### Bowling

<u>Team</u>	W	<u>L</u>	<u>Team</u>	W	L
MXS-Phase	68	26	oss	48	48
SFS	62	34	AFCESA	48	48
CS 1	58	38	RHS	46	50
601st EAOG 2	58	38	1st AMU 1	46	50
MSS 1	56	40	NCOA	46	50
601st EAOG 1	56	40	1st FS	44	52
83rd FWS 2	56	40	ACS 2	44	52
MOS	55	41	ACS 1	44	52
1st AMU 3	53	43	1st AMU 2	44	52
MXS 1	52	44	CONS	41	55
IAM	52	44	CES	40	56
83rd FWS 1	50	46	MDG	40	56
MSS 2	50	46	MXS-AMMO	38	58
AMXS	50	46	CS 2	38	58
53rd WEG	48	48	svs	37	59
TEST	48	48	AAFES	18	78

#### Pig-Prog vs. 325th OG

Arizona @ Detroit **Detroit** Baltimore @ Jacksonville **Jacksonville** Indianapolis Houston @ Indianapolis **Buffalo** Kansas City @ Buffalo Minnesota @ N.Y. Giants N.Y. Giants **New England** New England @ Miami San Francisco @ Chicago Chicago Denver @ Oakland **Oakland** N.Y. Jets @ Carolina Carolina Green Bay @ Atlanta **Atlanta** St. Louis @ Seattle Seattle Washington @ Tampa Bay Tampa Bay Cleveland @ Pittsburgh **Pittsburgh** Dallas @ Philadelphia 42points 52 points

The Pig-Prog lost to AFRL in the Week 9 challenge. I guess I should have done my *research*.

Page 14 Gulf Defender Nov. 11, 2005

# Tyndall talent tries to avoid getting 'gonged'

2ND LT. WILLIAM POWELL

325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A Tyndall food service specialist put down his spatula and picked up two free tickets to Disney World after he took first place Nov. 4 in the first Tyndall Gong Show contest at the Enlisted Club.

Airman 1st Class Thomas Loconti, 325th Services Squadron, danced his way past 12 other contestants to become number one before a crowd of nearly 200 Tyndall Airmen and family members.

"The contest was a blast, and I'm glad everyone else seemed to enjoy it," said Airman Loconti, whose dancing style is known as popping and locking, a form of break dancing. "I've never really won anything in my life, and I've never been to Disney World, so this is fantastic."

Other contestants tried to avoid the "gong" by dazzling the crowd with magic tricks, singing, poetry, or musical instruments – some talents that would not necessarily fit the Tyndall Idol format, said Lt. Col. Marc Piccolo, 325th SVS commander.

the 'fringe,' those performers who may not be mainstream entertainers or who are just looking to have a good time," he said. "I think it was a big hit, and I'd like to thank all the performers. It took a lot of courage to get on that stage at the risk of being gonged by the judges."

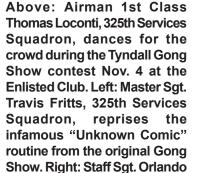
Only four Airmen made it to the end, but none tasted

Only four Airmen made it to the end, but none tasted defeat as much as Master Sgt. Travis Fritts, 325th SVS first sergeant, who performed three times for the crowd.

"Most of what I remember from the original show was watching people do stuff completely off the wall," said Sergeant Fritts, who also acted as the emcee. "So in the spirit of the original, I wanted to show the (contestants and audience) that acting like a fool for entertainment was OK. Who else would have dressed up as a cow with a guitar to sing?"

Other crowd favorites included Staff Sgt. Orlando Hernandez, 325th Maintenance Squadron, who took second place as "The Jake Magician," and Tech. Sgt. Cliff Jones, 325th Communications Squadron, who earned third place as "Little Toby Keith."





Hernandez, 325th Maintenance Squadron, stuns the crowd with

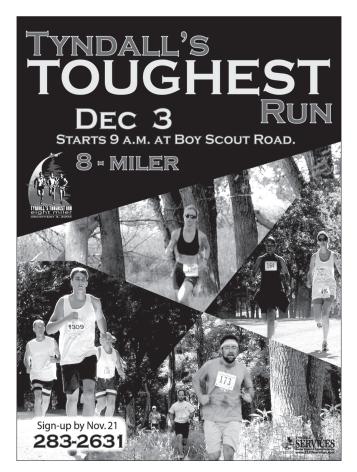
magic tricks.





Think before you drink.





# Tigers storm past Hurricanes

The Tyndall Tigers men's varsity basketball team, 9-2 overall, kicked off their home schedule by taking two victories from the visiting Hurricanes of Naval Station Mayport, Jacksonville, Fla., in Southeastern Military Athletic Conference regular season play Saturday and Sunday.

In Saturday's game, the Tigers and Hurricanes played close throughout the first half with Tyndall taking a two point lead 23-21 at the intermission. In the second half, the Tigers opened up with a 16-4 run to take a 39-25 lead. Tyndall was never threatened as their lead ballooned to as many as 24 points. They walked away with a 72-54 victory over the Hurricanes.

Anthony Showers paced the Tigers in scoring with a game-high 17 points, followed by Jared Austin with 13, The action was nip and tuck down the and Derrell Thomas, Ryan Cunningham and Mike Clair who all scored 10 points. Clair and Markus Manuel led in rebounding with 10 each and Showers led in assists with seven. Marcus Reaves led the Hurricanes in scoring with 12 points.

Sunday's game saw the Tigers and Mayport once again slug it out defensively, until Mayport went on a late run to take a 12 point lead, 36-24, at the intermission. In the second half, the Tigers, behind Anthony Showers, who poured in 32 second-half points, and the harassing defense of Cunningham, Manuel and Melvin Smith, steadily mounted a comeback from their largest deficit of the season. With five minutes remaining to be played, the Tigers seized the lead. stretch, but clutch free-throw shooting by Showers, who connected on 16 out of 18 free throws during the half, sealed the hard fought victory for the Tigers, 67-63.

Showers paced the Tigers in scoring with 39 points, which was not only a game high, but the highest of his Tigers career. His scoring was followed by Austin with 16 points. Lance Clark led in rebounding with 12 and Showers dished out six assists. Justin Jenkins led the Hurricanes in scoring with 16 points.

The Tigers will travel to MacDill AFB, Fla., Saturday and Sunday to face the Falcons, and the Tigers and Lady Tigers will host the Knights from Moody AFB, Ga.

(Courtesy of the Tyndall Tigers)

# Tyndall celebrates Military Family Month

JEAN SCHMIDT

325th Mission Support Squadron

For the last nine years, November has been set aside to recognize an important part of the Air Force team: The military family.

Air Force families face many challenges: Long deployments, family separations and frequent relocation. Yet Team Tyndall members and their families still find time to reach and help others, especially this year, working help those who have been directly impacted by the many hurricanes.

In recognition of the many sacrifices and the challenges that current events pose for these families, the Family Support Center and several other organizations on base have joined the Armed Forces YMCA in observing this national event.

To celebrate the military family, the Armed Forces YMCA is sponsoring its annual Art Contest for children in kindergarten through the sixth grade, and Essay Contest 2006 for students first through 12th-grade. Winners will be awarded \$100, \$500 and \$200 U.S. Savings Bonds in each category. Application packages can be picked up at the Tyndall Burger King, or for more information call the Family Support Center at 283-4204.

To show appreciation to Team Tyndall military families, the following organizations will be sponsoring activities and promotional events during the month of November:

Family Tradition Night at the Family Support Center – This event will be held Thursday 5:30–7:30 p.m. at the Family Support Center classroom in Bldg. 743. There will be prizes for the most creative traditions, as well as free pizza and drinks.

Services Family Night Pizza Buffet – This will be held from 5:30-8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Pizza Pub located in the Community Center. Nov. 22 will feature kids' videos, karaoke and a clown.

**Pelican Point Golf Course** – From noon to 1 p.m. every Sunday during the month of November, military spouses will only have to pay half price, and dependents 6–17 years old can golf for free. Military members will still be full price.

Raptor Lanes Bowling Center Family Bowling Special – This will be held from 2–9 p.m. Saturdays and 1–3 p.m. Sundays throughout November. The price of \$21.50 includes two hours of bowling, shoe rental, hot dogs and fountain drinks for up to five family members.

**Gulf Defender** Nov. 11, 2005 Page 16



# tunshine NE



www.325thservices.com

☆Log onto the NEW & IMPROVED Web site ☆

www.325thservices.com



#### **Every Sunday!**

Large one topping pizza and a pitcher.

\$10.50

Doors open at 11 a.m.

For details contact Pizza Pub 283-3222

#### Free Golf Clinic

Nov. 20 4 p.m.

Limited to first 10 people.

Sign up ahead of time.

For details contact Pelican Point 983-4389.

**Home Phone** 





6 p.m. 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place Prizes

For details call 283-2495.





For details contact Bonita Bay 283-3199



Front of Marina by Horseshoe Pitts For details contact Marina Club 283-3059.

#### NAF **Property Sale** Nov. 19 7 - 11:30 a.m.



Bldg. 1615 & 1617 Items to be sold:

Desks, TVs, beds, etc.

12th Annual **Turkey Trot** 5K Walk/Run Nov. 17 Walk - 3 p.m. Run - 3:30 p.m.

Prizes will be awarded!

details contact Fitness Center 283-2631

For details contact Lodging 283-4211.

#### A rescue team is sent down into the world's largest cave system to try to find the spelunkers who first explored its depths. But when the group's

escape route is cut off, they are hunted by the monstrous creatures that live down below For details contact E'Club

Tonight at the

E'Club 6 p.m.

Free Movie Nites E'Club 6 p.m.

The Cave - (Rated PG-13) Roll Bounce - (Rated PG-13)

> X and his friends, who rule their local rink, are shocked when their home base goes out of business. Heading over to the Sweetwater Roller Rink, they find their modest talents are, at first, no competition for their trick skaters and pretty girls who follow their every move. For details contact E'Club 283-4146. Movies are subject to cha

#### Leaving the Driving to Us



Nov. 21- Jan. 3



Designated Driver Program

Here's your opportunity to win \$250 in club bucks. www.325thservices\designated driver



For details contact Susan at 283-1108.



#### Attention Team Tyndall: Place a free classified ad in the Gulf Defender

Military classified ads are placed in the Gulf Defender on a spaceavailable basis. Ads must be for a one-time sale of personal goods and should include a complete description, 30 words or less, of item being sold. Forms must be turned in by 2 p.m. Thursday for publication in the following Friday's Gulf Defender. Completed forms can be dropped off or mailed to the 325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs Office at 445 Suwannee Rd. Ste. 129 Tyndall AFB, FL 32403, or faxed to (850) 283-3225. Ads can also be sent in by e-mail to checkertailmarket@tyndall.af.mil.

Rank/Name	
Unit/Office Symbol	
Duty Phone	

Item description (One ad per form) (30 words or less)

### We value your opinion!

Take a couple of minutes to give us your thoughts on how we can make the Gulf Defender better:

Did the front page grab your attention? Yes □ No □

Do you feel there is a good mix of local. command and Air Force-level news? Yes □ No □

Do the photos encourage you to read accompanied articles?

Yes □ No □

Is the Gulf Defender easy to read and follow?

Yes □ No □

What did you find most interesting in this week's paper?\_

If you could change one thing in the paper, what would it be?

Comments:

Nov. 11, 2005

Virtual Commissary opens for business

Bonnie Powell Defense Commissary Agency

#### FORT LEE, Va. (AFPN) -

Defense Commissary Agency shoppers looking for a different kind of gift can let their fingers do the clicking at the new Virtual Commissary.

Commissary officials said Virtual Commissary will open up new options of Internet shopping for authorized users.

"We're excited about DeCA's first adventure into the world of Internet shopping," said Patrick Nixon, chief executive officer and acting director for the Defense Commissary Agency.

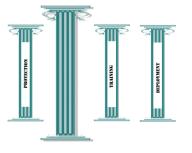
Virtual Commissary products can be found on the shelves of "brick and mortar" commissaries, but the unique packaging of products into gift and special occasion baskets adds a new twist. With titles like "Camouflage," "Drill Sergeant" and "Touch of Home," the baskets offer assortments of crackers, canned cheeses, cookies, candies and even beverages and coffee packs.

"The number of vendors and manufacturers participating will continue to increase — along with the variety of products," Mr. Nixon said.

To access Virtual Commissary, shoppers must pass through a secure portal found under the shopping link at www.commissaries.com. Personal information entered by the customer is validated to ensure they are an authorized shopper. Access is dependent on whether the customer is entered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System. Military exchanges use a similar method to check for authorization before permitting access to exchange Web sites or online shopping.

Department of Defense civilians stationed overseas who are otherwise autho-

#### FORCE SUSTAINMENT





Staff Sgt. Benjamin Rojek

Commissary customers can now do some of their shopping online at www.commissaries.com.

rized to shop at commissaries may not be able to access Virtual Commissary until changes are made to the DEERS database by the Defense Manpower Data Center, said DeCA officials. The DMDC is targeting completion of the changes for late November.

Virtual Commissary customers can make selections and fill in their payment and shipping information in one easy and secure step before being transferred to the manufacturer's site to receive the total cost for the product, including the shipping. Customers then finalize their purchase.

Shipping and handling charges are similar to other Internet shopping sites, and charges will vary depending on the method of shipping selected, location and the speed of delivery requested. Customers can check for availability of delivery to Army Post Office and Fleet Post Office addresses, as well as receive more information on what is in the gift baskets by clicking on the image of the gift basket at Virtual Commissary. Payment for orders can be made with any credit card accepted in "real" commissaries. Customer information is not archived by DeCA.

"We're certainly energized by the possibilities offered to our customers through this partnership with industry," Mr. Nixon said. "The future of online commissary shopping is unlimited."

Down the road, Virtual Commissary expansion could include making a wide variety of commissary products available — a feature that would allow deployed military servicemembers, retirees and other authorized shoppers to order items they want and need at commissary savings — no matter where they live.

